

South Dakota

PRICES RECEIVED

News Release

March 30, 2000

LIVESTOCK PRICES UP FROM LAST YEAR

STIOUX FALLS, March 30, 2000 -- February prices for calves and barrows and gilts lead the advance over last February, according to USDA's South Dakota Ag Statistics Service. Prices for sows, cows, steers and heifers, sheep, and lambs are also up from last February.

The preliminary March all beef cattle price, at \$79.30 was up \$1.30 from last month and up \$7.80 from last year. Steers and heifers, at \$83.80, were up 80 cents from February and up \$7.60 from February of last year. Calves, at \$108.00, were up \$1.00 from last month and \$24.50 higher than last February.

The preliminary February all hog price, at \$40.30 was down 60 cents from last month but up \$10.60 from last year. Barrows and gilts were \$10.70 higher than last year, while sows were up \$9.60 from one year ago.

The preliminary all wheat price for March, at \$2.77, was up 9 cents from last month but the same as last year. The winter wheat price, at \$2.44, was up 14 cents from last month and up 2 cents from last February. The spring wheat price, at \$2.85, was up 7 cents from last month but down 26 cents from last year. The March soybean price, at \$4.62, was up 19 cents from last month and up 23 cents from last year. The corn price, at \$1.79, was up 6 cents from last month and up 18 cents from last year. The preliminary all sunflower price, at \$6.70 on expectations of low confectionary sales, was down 2 cents from last month and down \$2.55 from last year.

The preliminary all hay price for March, at \$43.00 per ton, was unchanged from February but \$2.00 below last year. The alfalfa price, at \$46.00 per ton, was up \$2.00 from last month but down \$4.00 from last year. The other hay price, at \$29.00, was up \$1.00 from last month but down \$1.00 from February 1999.

PRICES RECEIVED BY SOUTH DAKOTA FARMERS

COMMODITY	UNIT	February 1999 1/	February 2000 1/	March 2000 2/
----- DOLLARS -----				
Corn	Bu.	1.61	1.73	1.79
Soybeans	Bu.	4.39	4.43	4.62
Sunflowers	Cwt.	9.25	6.72	6.70
Wheat, All	Bu.	2.77	2.68	2.77
Winter	Bu.	2.42	2.30	2.44
Other Spring	Bu.	3.11	2.78	2.85
Durum	Bu.	5/	5/	5/
Barley, All	Bu.	1.88	2.26	2.26
Feed	Bu.	1.42	1.63	1.65
Malt	Bu.	5/	2.31	2.31
Oats	Bu.	1.08	1.31	1.28
Flaxseed	Bu.	5/	5/	5/
Hay, All	Ton	45.00	43.00	43.00
Alfalfa	Ton	50.00	44.00	46.00
Other	Ton	30.00	28.00	29.00
Cattle, All Beef 3/	Cwt.	71.50	78.00	79.30
Cows	Cwt.	33.70	37.20	38.40
Steers & Heifers	Cwt.	76.20	83.00	83.80
Calves 4/	Cwt.	83.50	107.00	108.00
Hogs, All	Cwt.	29.70	40.90	40.30
Barrows & Gilts	Cwt.	30.90	42.00	41.60
Sows	Cwt.	18.60	31.10	28.20
Lambs	Cwt.	73.90	88.10	NA
Sheep	Cwt.	29.30	43.80	NA

1/ Entire month. 2/ Mid-month. 3/ Over 500 lbs. 4/ Under 500 lbs. 5/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual buyers. NA = Not Available.

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